



Aged Specimen Jar Labels

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SUMMARY

This is a fun way to make labels look like they're aged for specimen jars for your spooky decor or laboratory, for Halloween or whatever occasion strikes your fancy.

What you'll need:

Heavy card stock
Glue - glue stick/rubber cement/spray glue
Coffee - instant or leftover
Jars
Iron
Paper towels
Fonts - I got several from dafont.com

Step 1 — Aged Specimen Jar Labels



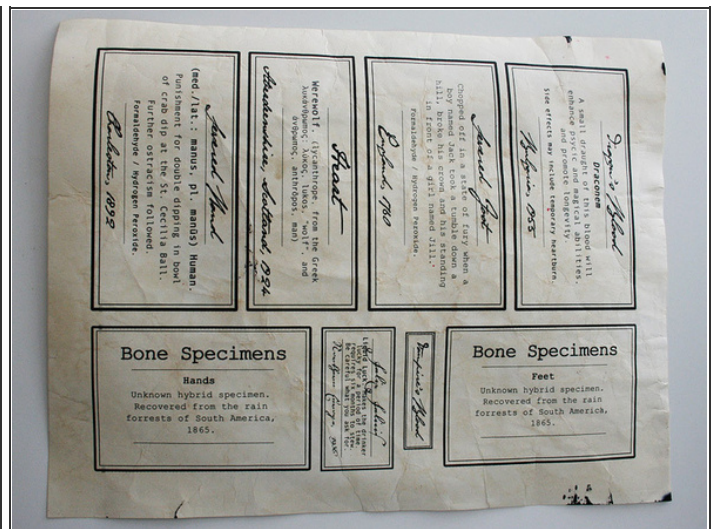
- Be sure to do a test page first. Some printer inks CAN handle being printed first and then going through the 'aging' process, but most don't. I know ours doesn't.
- Ball up your paper into a tight ball. I pulled it apart and balled it again. Stick it into a coffee bath. It originally called for instant coffee and water, but I used leftover coffee. We make rocket fuel and knew it would do just fine.
- I played with it a bit and started to smooth it out as it began to absorb the liquid. Depending on the thickness of the paper, it can stay in anywhere from about a minute to about two minutes.

Step 2



- Once it is saturated to your desire, pull it out and let it drip for a few seconds. At this point you can hang it, lay it, or iron it between paper towels to dry. I chose the latter for expediency.

Step 3



- Once it's dry – and it has to be dry – set it up in the printer feed and initiate printing. The paper isn't very flat so I made sure to stand by the printer and keep an eye on the feed.
- If the ink gets a little blotchy, don't worry as it adds more to the effect!

Step 4



- Cut and glue to what you're labeling. I used a glue stick for our project as several labels went on antique bottles and I needed to get them off with ease. Rubber cement and spray glue are great to use if you're not too worried about getting the labels off quickly.
- For any 'blood' effects on the labels, just add a drop or red food coloring. Let it soak in for a minute and gently blot off any excess.

Step 5



- Set your spooky scene!

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